Art analysis of TheBrain

This has been done in 2025

The main objective is to import a publication map into *TheBrain*.

What is TheBrain?

It is a sofware released in 1998 from *TheBrain Technologies*.

The sofware is specialized in a *Knowledge Graph* type of *mind mapping* software. Go and see that video to understand: *video*.

The power of *TheBrain* is that it can process a **large amount of data**, more than any of its competitors.

Exportation

The data from *TheBrain* can be exported in *json*. To understand the different files, you can check the explanations from the former internship (2023).

In that *forum*, some people discussed about the difficulty they faced to manipulate *json* data. In fact, *TheBrain* removed the *import/export* via *CSV*,.

They said: `The export features of this product are HORRIBLE, ZERO help`.

Importation

Import via *json* is not supported as it is too easy to create invalid data. There are two other ideas:

- import via *XML*: requires a parsing from *json* to *xml*.

It could depend on the *TheBrain* version used.

- import via the **API**.

The version *1.0.5* has been released in 2023. It seems to be great.

Here is the *swagger*.

They even made some example projects *right here*.

I need to investigate about it.

Competitors

Hard to say. *TheBrain* seems to be the best.

Database that could be used to manipulate *TheBrain* data.

Of course, *TheBrain* has its own database. However, we can't use it except with the *API*.

neo4j(Graph database) could be used to manipulate data and then, it can be send to *TheBrain* via the *API*.

Neo4j seems to be more *dev friendly* even if it is not fully *open-source*. It is a *NO-SQL* databased that's *Java* based.

Here is the *github*. I already found a *docker image right here*.

Other alternatives of *graph databases* could be is explained *here*.

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